MR. T. C. THOMMEN: No. But it is known from the Anchal Superintendent that he had received a petition from the inhabitants of Madavoor-Pallikkal, with copy of a resolution passed at a public meeting held at the place on 10th Vrischikam 1104. There was none to furnish security against loss to Government and no action was therefore taken in the matter.

MR. K. P. NILAKANTA PILLAI: Has the member any defenite information as to whether anybody has offered security or not?

MR. T. C. THOMMEN: It is reported that nobody has offered security.

MR. K. P. NILAKANTA PILLAI: Will the Government be pleased to enquire whether anybody has offered security so that the Anchal Office could be opened?

MR. T. C. THOMMEN: The matter will be enquired into.

Encouragement of Punja cultivators.

21. *MR. M. N. NARAYANA MENON (*Kottayam*): Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) whether the Economic Depression Enquiry Committee has recommended that sufficient encouragement should be given to punja cultivators so that their agricultural expenses may be reduced; and

(*b*) whether they have taken any action accordingly?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Ag. Land Revenue and Income Tax Commissioner*): (*a*) The Economic Depression Enquiry Committee have recommended that the State should pursue a policy of active assistance to paddy cultivators so as to enable them to bring down the cost of cultivation and to increse the output of their fields.

(*b*) The Director of Agriculture has proposed certain relief measures which are under the consideration of Government.

MR. K. K. THOMAS (*Nominated*): May I know from the member, what are the specific recommendations of the Economic Depression Enquiry Committee to assist the paddy cultivators?

MR. K. GEORGE: The supply of cheap crude oil from the B. O. Company is the chief recommendation.

MR. K. K. THOMAS: Does the member know of the variation in the market rate of the oil supplied by the B. O. C. and other compaines?

MR. K. GEORGE: I have no information.

MR. K. K. THOMAS: Is there any other recommendation?

MR. K. GEORGE: The Director of Agriculture has recommended the sale of agricultural implements on hire purchase system and the grant of short term loans.

Imposition of fines on students for default in payment of fees.

22. *MR. M. N. NARAYANA MENON: Will the Government be pleased to state.

(*a*) whether the Economic Depression Enquiry Committee has recommended that the system of levying fines on students who fail to pay their fees in time should be discontinued; and

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